



Gospel to them. He consented and sat down, with most of the Mussulmans in the village around him, and a copy of the New Testament, procured from an American missionary in Broussa, in his hand. He began and read on, amidst almost breathless silence, until the hour of meal had come. His hearers, however, had become so deeply interested in the narrative, that they would not permit him to suspend the reading. He continued, therefore, uninterrupted until he came to the closing scenes of the life of Christ. Here they stopped, for it is a doctrine of the Mohammedans that it was not Jesus who was crucified, but some one in his appearance and likeness.

The lives of the patriarchs and prophets are also a favorite portion of the Scriptures to the Mussulmans. Their own books are full of stories concerning them. They speak of them with the deepest reverence. They regard them all as veritable Mussulmans, as, in the literal sense of the word, they indeed were. They adopt their names. They respect the place of their birth, and perform pilgrimages to their sepulchres.

The other portions of the sacred writings which Mussulmans read with the highest admiration, are those which abound in moral sentiments and precepts. Such are the Psalms of David and the prayers of Solomon. The former are replete with those expressions of adoration and trust in God which are most congenial to a devout Mussulman, and with similes and resemblances most familiar to the mind of an Oriental. The latter is, throughout, an Eastern book. Its apothegmational and sententious style is to which the minds of Mussulmans are most accustomed in their own books on moral truth and duty.

Not to particularize further, I may mention the *Sermon on the Mount* as another portion of Scripture which I have heard Mussulmans read and expatiate upon with evident delight.

## BOSTON RECORDER.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 4, 1840.

### BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES IN ENGLAND.

**Naval and Military Bible Society.** Thirty-six of the vessels of the royal navy, including five government steam packets, were supplied with 1752 copies during the year. The number of Bibles supplied to the army was 70,725. Whole number of copies issued by the Society since its formation, 18 years ago, is 356,300.

**British and Foreign Temperance Society.** On the subject of opium, the committee remark that its use has been more destructive in China and India than that of distilled spirits in Europe. The auxiliaries of Malacca, Pinay, and Singapore have especially directed their efforts against the use of this pernicious drug, and have distributed large quantities of tracts in Indo-Portuguese, Bengalee, Tamul, Malay and Chinese. The consumption of opium in England in 1820, was 16,169 pounds; in 1836, 38,943; in 1838, 31,204; in 1839, 41,204.

**Wesleyan Missionary Society.** Annual receipts, £92,692, being an increase of £7,897. By a resolution adopted at the annual meeting of this Society, it seems that the practical sanction of idolatry by the British government in India has not yet been withdrawn. In the Madras Presidency, all the evils which have been so justly complained of, still remain, without the slightest mitigation, while the feelings of the religious public continue to be grossly outraged, and the character of the nation iniquitously compromised.

**Christian Instruction Society.** Associations, 100; visitors, 2,164; stations, 140; missionaries, 13; families visited, 59,101, containing, probably, 293,000 individuals at each of the 140 stations; one and sometimes two services are held weekly, attended by at least 2,000 persons, who rarely, if ever, go to a more public place of worship. In tents pitched in the suburbs of London, during the summer, and in the open air when the weather would permit, about 500 services are conducted, and are attended by considerable numbers, who listen with order and seriousness. Four courses of lectures on the evidence, doctrines and duties of Christianity, were delivered last winter, at all of which many operatives attended; 3,647 children were induced to attend Sunday or day schools; 2,943 cases of distress were relieved, and more than 1,500,000 religious tracts were lent.

**European Missionary Society.** This Society has contributed something in restoring to the Protestantism of the continent a new scriptural character. Under the charge of the Society are nearly 60 congregations, and many schools, with their agents in France, Belgium, Switzerland, Corsica and Madeira. Number of agents 20, of whom 14 are in France; at 52 stations, there are about 4,300 hearers.

**British and Foreign School Society.** The model schools afford the same unmixed satisfaction which has been felt in past years. For the new Normal school, which it has been determined to establish, at least £20,000 will be required for the purpose of completing it, £11,000 being the whole amount yet received. In the distribution of the government grant, 75 applications from British schools have been made. The sums applied for amounted to £12,666. In illustration of the popular ignorance which prevails in some parts of England, it is stated, that in the three months of July, August and September, 1838, there were 27,767 couples married in England and Wales, of whom 8,733 men, and 13,624 women, signed the registers with a mark.

**British and Foreign Suppression-of-Intemperance Society.** This Society adopts the following pledge. "This Society shall consist of persons who may sign a declaration to abstain from all intoxicating liquors, except medicinally, or in a religious ordinance." During the last year, nearly 20,000 persons gave this pledge; not fewer than 2,000 have been rescued from habits of intemperance; about 1,000, who had been living without God in the world, have been led to attend public worship, many of whom have become communicants.

**New British and Foreign Temperance Society.** The Report announces the great prosperity of the Society during the past year. In one district alone 100 drunkards had been reclaimed, 45 of whom had joined different churches. Not only had the moral habits and social comforts of the people been improved, but their religious welfare had been greatly promoted. The funds (£2,400), had nearly trebled those of the preceding year. The following is the pledge of this Society. "We agree that we will not use intoxicating liquors as a beverage, nor traffic in them, that we will not provide them as an article of entertainment, or for per-

sons in our employment, and that in all suitable ways will disown them throughout the community." The Society's publications have proved of great utility.

By the influence of the *London City Mission*, a copy of a tract called "the way to be healthy and happy," has been given to every poor family in the metropolis. Ten lectures have been delivered against Socialism, all of which were attended by thronged audiences. Since the formation of the mission, 871,891 calls and visits have been made, of which 109,151 were to the sick and dying.

**West Indies.** By an official statement of education in the British Islands and British Guiana, the following results appear. Schools 1,471, teachers, 1067, scholars 104,830, being about one in nine of the population, which is estimated at 901,649 persons; of these 104,830 there are in day schools 34,098, in Sunday schools 40,154, in evening schools 11,416, and in private schools 10,166.

### AMHERST COLLEGE.

Amherst, Aug. 27th, 1840.

**Mrs. WILLIS.**—As you have a right to expect some account of the Commencement of Amherst College, and I am not sure that any other person will furnish it, the following hasty outline I submit to your disposal.

After the great rain and the vivid electrical discharge of the Sabbath, three brighter days never looked down upon this charming eminence, than Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The first public exercise was *prize speaking*, on Monday evening, by four members from each of the Sophomore and Freshman classes. The large church where all the exercises are held, was well filled; the music, by the College flute club, was fine, and the speaking was thought, I believe, by intelligent strangers, to do honor to the Institution.

The performances on Tuesday afternoon, were first, an address before the Literary Societies, by James Hampshire, Esq. of New York city, and secondly, a poem, by — Rockwell, of Utica, N. Y. The address was an able and highly finished production.

It was illustrated by appeals to argument and fact, the necessity of Personal Independence to the Scholar. In these days of excitement, where so many powerful and often contrary influences assail the man of letters, the subject becomes one of great practical importance. At the commencement, the speaker, apparently from indisposition, seemed to labor in his enunciation; and we began to fear, that the merits of the address would not be appreciated. But he gradually rose above his physical weakness, and the manner as well as the matter increased in interest to the last.

The poem of Mr. Rockwell, labored under the great disadvantage, of not being distinctly heard. This was partly owing to want of compass in his voice, and still more, to the uneasiness and gradual fading off of the audience, after the long address to which they had just been listening. After hearing a considerable number of poems, on similar occasions, I wonder more and more, that the favorites of the masses in our country, will consent to bring up the rear, in a hot afternoon, and before a jaded assembly, to which they had just been listening. After hearing a poem thus, I am greatly inclined to prefer it to any other.

[The following communication was received after the above was in type.]

**John Sewell Gardner, S. Bridge Ingersoll Goldsmith, Wm. Blankenship Hammond, Alexander Jackson, George Baker Jewett, John Henry Martin Leland, George Robert Lord, George Hayes Merrick, Simon Miller, Th. Grier Murphy, Samuel Newman, Jr., Thomas Snell Norton, Ariel Eben. Parish Perkins, Frederic Hyde Putkin, Francis Greenleaf Pratt, Horace Pratt, Pliny Fisk Sanborn, Jacob Oscar Smith, William Snell, Henry Martin Spofford, Elizur Redolus Sprague, John Herrick Stratton, Calvin Terry, Jeremy Webster Tuck, Franklin Tarbill, Thomas Scott, Vail, Edward Flint Watson, George Milton Williams.**

**23. Oration.** The Ideal of Scholarship, with the Valedictory Address, George Baker Jewett, Salem, Prayer by the President.

They have but one exercise here on Commencement day; going in at nine and coming out about two o'clock. This arrangement I like better upon the whole, than to have two sessions: for although it is somewhat fatiguing, to sit five hours upon a stretch, it saves a great deal of noise and bustle, which going in again after dinner unavoidable occasions, and makes it much more convenient for friends the vicinity, to return home in good season.

The performances of the young gentlemen were characterized by good sense, and I was going to say extreme gravity—for there was very little to excite a smile, from beginning to end. This I think was a fault, though by no means so great, as the opposite extreme. We want a sally, now and then, to keep us wide awake, and help us to enjoy the rest, the better. The general style of writing was mainly the oration was clear and forcible, and with some few exceptions, in regard to the attitudes and gesture, the elocution was highly creditable to the speakers, and to the college. Some of the performances were of a high order of excellence; but a more particular specification would be invidious.

I understand the Trustees have made some alterations, with respect to Commencement and vacations. The Commencement is to be held hereafter, on the fourth Thursday of July, instead of the fourth Wednesday of August, as heretofore. The first vacation will be four weeks from the Commencement, beginning with the present year. The winter vacation will be six weeks from Thanksgiving, and the spring vacation two weeks. Thirty-four or five, have already entered the Freshman class, which is said to be as large a number, with one or two exceptions, as have ever been received at Commencement. It is understood, that the college has received a legacy of real estate in Boston, from Mr. Caleb Stimpson lately deceased; but of what value I do not know; and if I am rightly informed, the entire sum is to be used for the support of the institution.

The pieces of the young gentlemen were of a religious cast; but naturally so, that is, there was no appearance of piety assumed for the occasion. The valedictory orator made a most touching allusion to the work of grace with which the college was blessed during the past winter, in which most of the senior class (as well as many others) were hopefully converted. Twenty-six received the degree of A. B. in course, and a number of that of A. M. The degree of D. B. was conferred on Rev. E. W. Hooker of Bennington, Vt., and the Rev. Daniel Dow of Thompson, Conn.

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September 4, 1840.

## BOSTON RECORDER.

## GRAND LIGNE, CANADA.

The Mission house is completed, and was opened Aug. 9, with services of a very interesting character, in the French language, conducted by Rev Mr Kirk, of New York, and Rev L Roussey, the missionary stationed here. The morning service was attended by about 150 persons—two fifths of them French Canadien. Rev Mr Roussey offered the dedicatory prayer, and Rev Mr Kirk preached the sermon from Matt 4:15, 16. "The land of Zebulon and of Naphtali by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles." The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death, light is sprung up."

## FOREIGN MISSIONS.

*Notices from the Missionary Herald, for September.*

## SAVANNA MISSION.

Mr. BIGGS AT RHODES.—"It was Saturday. We went into the synagogue of the Jews, who form a considerable portion of the population. The synagogue was large and well filled. They were reading in Hebrew a portion of the history of Abraham. But alas for the veil that is on their hearts. In one thing the Jews, the Mohammedans, and the Christians of these countries agree, viz. that all their services are performed in an unknown tongue."

BENYORT.—"The appearance of Beyroot from the water is very agreeable. The houses are all of stone, and have a solid appearance. On the left rises Mount Lebanon, with its summit hid in clouds. On the right are the gardens, with country houses interspersed among the trees."

DEPHI.—"Here Mr. K. was received as a stranger, with some coldness. The people seemed doubtful about him. But after he had distributed some books and tracts, the scene was altogether changed. He was invited to lodge at the demarch's, or Mayor's, and boys and women flocked to see him, giving him quantities of quinces, pomegranates and grapes. Some brought ancient medals, and being asked what they wished for them, money or books, the reply was 'Books, books.'

THE WIFE OF THE SHEPHERD OF VELITZA.—Her husband was tending his flock on the heights of Parnassus. "She was very diligent with her spindle, and rose at 2 o'clock in the morning, and seized her spindle and distaff. On asking her if her husband had with him a bed? she replied, nothing, nothing but his capot (a thick cloak, or coat). It is necessary for him to be with his flock on the mountain in order to get bread for me to eat. I asked who among them were called good lives? She replied, 'Those who have cheese to eat with their bread.' And, rejoined I, who are the poor? 'Those,' said she, 'who have neither bread nor cheese.' She with her father and mother-in-law dined on bread and cheese, and I believe they had also an onion; so that they must have been among the grandees of the place."

SINGAPORE.

THE LABORERS IN JERUSALEM.—"Jerusalem itself is in high ground, the roads to it ascending a good deal from every direction. Hence, the phrase, going up to Jerusalem was applicable to journeys from all parts of the country. The grey walls and the low stone houses, surmounted by domes of the same material, give to the whole a sombre appearance at first; but after a few days, the traveller visiting the deeply interesting localities in the neighborhood, begins to group them together, in their interesting relations to each other, and to the Holy City, and at length feels with much satisfaction that he is indeed in Jerusalem—treading again the same soil which was trodden ages ago, by prophets and apostles, and by the Lord himself, when veiled in humanity."

DOWN TO JERICHO.—"The road from Jerusalem to Jericho is a constant descent, so that one may well be said to 'go down' to Jericho. The modern village consists of thirty or forty huts of the most miserable description. The plain of the Jordan in which it stands, stretches many miles to the north, from the Dead Sea its southern boundary, and is 'well watered everywhere.'

DAED SEA.—The specific gravity of the water is such as to render the human body incapable of sinking in it. To the taste, it has an unequalled bitterness, and a peculiar pungency.

KALAKEAKA BAY.—The people here are building a church, 120 by 58 feet, wholly of their own choice, and at their own expense. 300 have professed a change of heart during the last winter and summer. There appears to be a constant and pleasing advance of religious principle.

HONOLULU.—The external change of the people has been very great. A new meeting house has been built, 125 by 60 feet, with 16 glass windows, and eight large panel doors—costing \$2000, most of it raised by the church and congregation. 190 stand profounded for the church, (Jan. 3.)

EWIA, (March 18.) 175 were received to the church during the nine months preceding. The present aspect of things is encouraging—increased watchfulness and prayer in the church—a more fraternal state of feeling, and a better attendance on the ordinances of religion.

WAIALUA.—This church has 456 members, and most of them appear firm on the Lord's side.

ROMANISM.—The effects of the visit of the L'Artemes, are more and more developed. Many unstable souls are drawn away—very few church members have fallen—but those that have opposed themselves to the truth heretofore, and manifested strong inclinations to return to heathenism, yield readily to the Catholic influence. And that influence is as strong, as allowed indulgence in intemperance, adultery, and violence, can make it.

MEETING OF THE AMERICAN BOARD.—The thirty-first annual meeting of the A B C F M is appointed to be held in the city of Providence, Rhode Island, to be opened on Wednesday, 9th day of September, at 10 o'clock in forenoon. On the evening of the first day of the meeting the annual sermon before the Board may be expected from the Rev Dr Beaman of Troy, N Y. The meetings for business are open to any one disposed to attend: It is hoped that many of the honorary members of the Board will be present to participate in the business of the meeting: They may expect that provision will be made for their accommodation.

MY OWN CONSCIENCE. I know that were I to die today, I should sink to hell immediately, for I am daily crucifying the Lord afresh, and putting him to an open shame." He and another priest will probably get out of office as fast as possible, though exposing themselves to obloquy, persecution, and perhaps death.

NEW COLLEGE AT SCUTARI.—This school was first established in opposition to the Mission School; and the high school at Haskay was broken up to make way for it, and Holmanes was sent away for the same reason. Funds cannot now be procured to sustain it. The Armenian Patriarch at Jerusalem withholds his patronage—and all expedients for its support.

YOUNG MEN.—Mr. Dwight has six regular attendants on his semi-weekly American Bible exercise—intelligent and promising young men, interested in the study of the sacred Scriptures.

GREECE.

PARNASSUS.—From the highest peak of this mountain, famed in song, Mr. Kirk counted eight or nine other very high peaks, so that "each muse might have had her summit, without interfering with her sisters." These peaks are quite barren, though low down, in some places, are an abundance of trees. From this summit, the traveller looks down upon Greece, as upon a map.

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SIMON, the Turner.—There is no stream in the vicinity, and hence the turners locate their establishments near the sea, which they use instead of pots for steeping the hides—a circumstance corresponding even to the present day, with the fact of Simon the turner's house being "by the sea-side."

GOING UP TO JERUSALEM.—Jerusalem itself is in high ground, the roads to it ascending a good deal from every direction. Hence, the phrase, going up to Jerusalem was applicable to journeys from all parts of the country. The grey walls and the low stone houses, surmounted by domes of the same material, give to the whole a sombre appearance at first; but after a few days, the traveller visiting the deeply interesting localities in the neighborhood, begins to group them together, in their interesting relations to each other, and to the Holy City, and at length feels with much satisfaction that he is indeed in Jerusalem—treading again the same soil which was trodden ages ago, by prophets and apostles, and by the Lord himself, when veiled in humanity."

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SANDWICH ISLANDS.

KALAKEAKA BAY.—The people here are building a church, 120 by 58 feet, wholly of their own choice, and at their own expense. 300 have professed a change of heart during the last winter and summer. There appears to be a constant and pleasing advance of religious principle.

HONOLULU.—The external change of the people has been very great. A new meeting house has been built, 125 by 60 feet, with 16 glass windows, and eight large panel doors—costing \$2000, most of it raised by the church and congregation. 190 stand profounded for the church, (Jan. 3.)

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WAIALUA.—This church has 456 members, and most of them appear firm on the Lord's side.

ROMANISM.—The effects of the visit of the L'Artemes, are more and more developed. Many unstable souls are drawn away—very few church members have fallen—but those that have opposed themselves to the truth heretofore, and manifested strong inclinations to return to heathenism, yield readily to the Catholic influence. And that influence is as strong, as allowed indulgence in intemperance, adultery, and violence, can make it.

DAED SEA.—The specific gravity of the water is such as to render the human body incapable of sinking in it. To the taste, it has an unequalled bitterness, and a peculiar pungency.

KALAKEAKA BAY.—The people here are building a church, 120 by 58 feet, wholly of their own choice, and at their own expense. 300 have professed a change of heart during the last winter and summer. There appears to be a constant and pleasing advance of religious principle.

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